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JUNE 22-JULY 5, 2017

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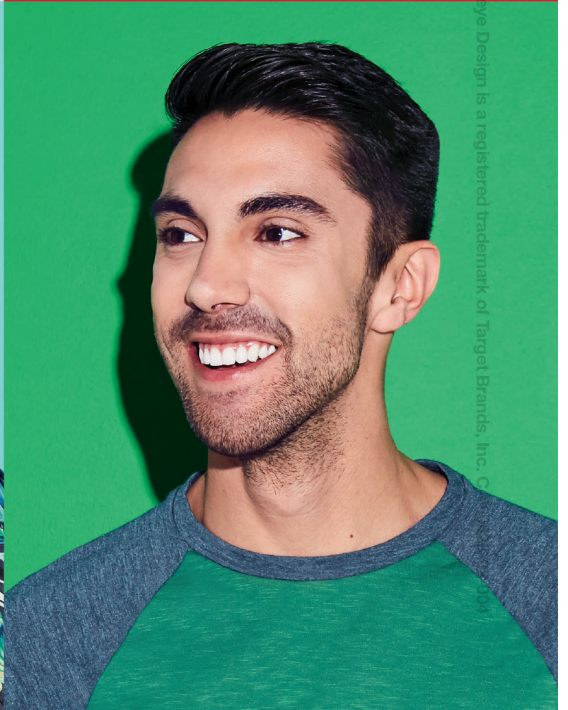




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Prepared and Paid for by the Tom Hoch for Minneapolis Committee,  
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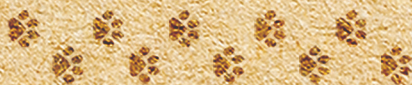






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Page 38 Photo courtesy of Twin Cities Pride, Page 20: Photo by Jonny Stuckmayer, Page 24: Photo by Carla Waldemar, Page 52: Photo by Randy Stern.

## ONLINE



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Prizes



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## ON THE COVER

Twin Cities Pride Weekend is here and there is so much to see, hear, and experience...including En Vogue at Pride in Concert Saturday night.  
Photo courtesy of En Vogue

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# Pride: What to Do?

It's the Thursday of Pride Weekend here in the Twin Cities and I hope you have a wonderful time, whatever you decide to do. I'm sure I'll see many of you at the numerous events. There are also plenty of us who decide or need to stay out of the fray for whatever reasons. Choose your own adventure, with pride.

We've got a lot of events in this issue. It's not necessarily a beach reading issue except for some of the travel pieces and columns, but the Pride What to Do and the extensive listing of Twin Cities Pride performers are meant to make this issue into more of a guide. That's also true for our online calendar at [www.lavendermagazine.com](http://www.lavendermagazine.com). When we added that to our website almost six years ago, I wondered if people would use it. Now, since I approve each event that's added to it, for free, by anyone in the community, I know it is used by the promoters. But do our readers use it?

Our website traffic says yes. Sometimes that's what I have to rely on, when I'm not hearing much as far as qualitative feedback is concerned. Then, I went to one of our First Thursday events that was at the Saint Paul Athletic Club, and I met a lovely gentleman who was trying to poach food from the appetizer trays with me. We weren't very good at it, but

joking about food is always a comfortable way to get to know people at an event. When he learned who I am, he mentioned that he learned about these First Thursday events from our online calendar. And that our online calendar helped him meet other people by going to events after he went through a breakup. It really made a difference for him.

Gosh. What's not to love about that feedback? Other than the breakup part of it, that is a success story if I ever heard one. Not only is the calendar useful, but the events he attended were also worthwhile enough so he kept seeking and finding more of them to go to. It's not just Lavender's rep on the line, it's that of the organizations who host events for this community. And if it makes a difference for even one person, that's a wonderful stat to hang on to.

So, please use this issue as a guide. Use our website. Find events on our calendar. Add events to it, too. We make this function work for all of us, organizers, attendees, and those here at Lavender. It's our community, they're our events, and you're our people. We're proud of who we are and what we do, and I can't wait to see you out there or at more of the community events this summer.

With you and with pride, Andy ■



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# What Will You Do?

Courage. It's awesome and amazing, in the original sense of causing awe and amazement, and we may be called to summon it at any time.

It can be displayed over time, as in daughter Nancy Borowick's photographic chronicling of her parents' final months dying of cancer. Through her elegant black and white images, we see how her parents — and the entire family — chose to live and love while not denying the inevitable. The couple, married 34 years, used laughter, food, and silliness to embrace life until the end.

Courage may be developed and nurtured through grit, determination, and sheer control over fear and physical near-impossibility. On June 3, 31-year-old Alex Honnold free-soloed (no ropes, pitons — nothing) the sheer face of Yosemite's El Capitan. Starting at 5:32 that morning, he scaled 3,000 vertical feet and clambered over the top to stand victorious three hours and 56 minutes later. When asked, he said, "Feeling fearful while I'm up there is not helping me in any way. It's only hindering my performance, so I just set it aside and let it be."

Others simply have courage thrust upon them; some ordinary

morning, a quiet afternoon, during a dinner out, far from any thought of danger. Three men in Portland, OR recently went to the aid of two young women being bullied, and two of them lost their lives, while courage was demanded of a bystander who stanching the wounds of a third, who survived.

Just recently, on a cool summer London evening, others were thrust to the forefront through a terrorist attack that left seven dead and dozens wounded. Amid the chaos was a young man, later identified as Liverpoolian Paul Armstrong, photographed running with the crowd, his unfinished pint balanced in one hand. (After all, they're 6£ in London.)

Another eyewitness, Richard Angell, told reporters he will return to the Arabica Bar and Kitchen in Borough Market to pay his bill and "double-tip" the staff who "cared about us and our safety." He further stated, "If me having a gin and tonic and flirting with handsome men is what offends these people so much, then I'm going to do it more, not less."

Courage. Let's hope it will be there when it's our turn. ■

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MAY 10, 2017





HEALTH AND SEX BELONG TOGETHER

A photograph of two men lying in bed, wearing wrestling masks. The man on the left wears a blue mask with red eye cutouts and a red mouth. The man on the right wears a red mask with silver and black eye cutouts and a silver mouth. They are both shirtless and have their arms raised behind their heads. They are lying on a bed with a patterned headboard and a brown quilted blanket. The background is a solid pink color.

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*The New Griots Festival, Vie Boheme.* Photo by Jonny Stuckmayer

## DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER

July 7-30

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Comedies were vehicles through which people of over a century ago could come to grips in some way with the raw nature of sexuality and desire in a time when western society was drenched in the Victorian ethos. To be sure, the Victorian mentality was not limited to Great Britain and its Commonwealth. Designers speak of American Victorian style. The style of much of continental European art and design also goes by the term "Victorian." The French, who some would have us wrongly believe were always indulging in their senses to decadent effect, most definitely had an erotophobic judgmental streak, and Victorian attitudes underlined that.

Constrictive French religiosity is a cul-

tural prototype, however, that precedes the 19th century. Indeed, the French population has long been just as conflicted about sexual expression as the Americans and the Brits, and the stage was where much was played out. Since the irreverent comedies by Moliere in the 1600s, France has been at the vanguard of sexual themes expressed through theater. As the Victorian century came to a close and the century that gave us the Sexual Revolution emerged, the bedroom farces of Frenchman Georges Feydeau (1862-1921) were quite popular, viewed as both frivolous and transgressive.

Then, as now, sex sells. Especially when it is crafted into well-written farce. In the 20th century sex farces were also popular like the long-running London hit, *Run for Your Wife*, and Alan Ayckbourn's enormously popular comedies. In the U.S. we know of the hit film and stage musical, *Victor/Victoria*. In Minneapolis, our own Harold Kahm penned *The Crowded Bed*.

Another 20th century farce writer has actually gained traction in the 21st century: French playwright of Italian background, Marc Carmoletti, finessed the bedroom farce style and wrote a play titled *Boeing Boeing* which became his signature hit. In recent years it has enjoyed popular revivals in New York, Minneapolis, and elsewhere. Since his death in 2003, Carmoletti's farces seem to be on their way to being seriously established as selections for American theaters. His *Don't Dress for Dinner* will play the Gremlin Theatre's new space in St. Paul.

Brian Balcom directed Feydeau's *Le Dindon* for Gremlin five years ago and points out that for that play "the sex and sexuality was forward and vulgar. There was grabbing and groping and burning loins in constant, passionate pursuit." Now, as director of Gremlin's production of Carmoletti's *Don't Dress for Dinner*, Balcom sees a real contrast: "In this play, the humor comes from the creative schemes the characters use to hide their extra-marital romances. Everyone is forced to think on their feet to cover up what's really going on and the lies grow more complex and confusing by the minute. The play is a comedy of confusion and misdirection and is pretty accurate as to how far we'll go to conceal our illicit affairs."

## THE NEW GRIOTS FESTIVAL

July 6-16

Guthrie Theater Dowling Studio

818 S 2nd St., Minneapolis

612-377-2224

[www.guthrietheater.org](http://www.guthrietheater.org)

The Guthrie Theater's Level 9 Series is about work that is socially conscious. The New Griots Festival presents emerging Black local artists. Festival co-leader Jamil Jude says we can expect queer artists to be a part of it: "Some of their work will comment directly on their experiences. What's important for us, as a festival, is that we proclaim that Black artists are not monolithic; in our sexual orientations, aesthetic interests, and how we show up in the world. This year's festival, more than previous years, will challenge audiences to expand their understanding; artists will present work in mediums we rarely see Black artist explore; artists will address current events as they seek to find the tools to enjoy life in the midst of storms; artists will position themselves as the voice of their generation — voices that need to be championed and echoed throughout Minnesota." Jude's fellow co-leaders are actress Jamaica Meyer and playwright Josh Wilder.



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651-292-4323

[www.historytheatre.com](http://www.historytheatre.com)

In 1977 Duluth heiress Elisabeth Congdon and her nurse were found murdered in Glensheen mansion. Her stepdaughter, Marjorie, and her husband, Roger, became prime suspects. That real-life who-done-it played out in court rooms, the press, and has essentially become a History Theatre creation that continues to draw in the crowds. It is now back for a third run. Book-writer Jeffrey Hatcher and composer-lyricist Chan Poling of the Suburbs birthed a beguilingly devilish work that brings to mind the small scale Off-Broadway musical comedies of the 1950s and '60s. The sharp, satirical cast that did the original production is back, directed by the same man, Ron Peluso. Cast includes Wendy Lehr, Gary Briggie, and Adam Qualls. Jen Maren and Dane Stauffer will reprise their saucy performances as Marjorie and Roger. Poling is renown for his tune "Love is the Law" which is considered to be the anthem of the Marriage Equality movement.

## IDIOT'S DELIGHT

June 30-July 23

Park Square Theatre Boss Stage  
20 W 7th Pl., St. Paul  
651-291-7005

[www.parksquaretheatre.org](http://www.parksquaretheatre.org)

Girl Friday Productions has become a stellar producer of American classics that don't

always enjoy revivals. For example: Elmer L. Rice's *Street Scene* and Tennessee Williams's *Camino Real*. The company produces a show every other year and this year's choice is eagerly awaited. Robert E. Sherwood's *Idiot's Delight* won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1936 and it just isn't produced very often. It will play on Park Square's Boss Stage.

Director Craig Johnson shares, "One of the things that fascinates me about *Idiot's Delight* is how seamlessly it stitches together several genres. It's a large-scale Broadway comedy filled with an array of vivid, off-beat

characters: gum-smacking chorus girls, bumbling waiters, rat-carrying German scientists, and an international woman of mystery. It's a love story originally crafted for Broadway stars Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne. While we don't have them, we do have popular Twin Cities actors Stacia Rice and John Middleton. The play also has a lot on its mind about militarism, nationalism, and borders that are suddenly closed to some — it's hard not to see our current politics chillingly reflected back to us. *And Idiot's Delight* has a floor-show in it, so it even becomes a musical for a bit! Our fun and exciting challenge will be to bring full value to all of these colors, emotions, and ideas!"

## MOTOWN

July 11-16

Orpheum Theatre, 910 Hennepin Ave.  
Minneapolis  
800-982-2787

[www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org](http://www.HennepinTheatreTrust.org)

Berry Gordy's autobiographical musical excels far beyond self-promotion. And though *Motown the Musical* is framed by tunes from the Motown catalog, this crowd-pleaser is more than just your usual crowd-pleaser. It has this extraordinary way of transcending the rote patterns some showcase musicals are know for. It will bowl you over with marvelous tunes while telling a great success story. *Motown* inspires, uplifts, and restores us into one of the greatest chapters in African American music history and music history in general. You'll see characters such as Diana Ross and Stevie Wonder and dance styles that capture the era to vibrant effect. ■



*Motown*. Photo by Joan Marcus



*"This sure hits the spot."*



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OUR SCENE  
TRAVEL | BY CARLA WALDEMAR

Downtown Mobile. Photo courtesy of Sean Pavone Photo/bigstock.com

# Upwardly Mobile

Welcome to the home of Mardi Gras, held in Louisiana's capitol city. No, not *that* town. Borders and rulers have changed, and Mobile now belongs to Alabama. Founded by French settlers in 1702, a year later its rowdier inhabitants launched the land's first Mardi Gras, well ahead of New Orleans.

Mobile resembles That Other City in its romantic architecture, with wrought-iron balconies shading sidewalks; gracious antebellum mansions; parks with live oaks draping veils of Spanish moss, throw-beads swaying in their branches; the 1835 cathedral glimmering with stained glass; and cafes selling sugar-kissed beignets — all symbols of a genteel deep-South past. But Mobile extends a hometown welcome that's warmer than That Other City, minus the raucous drunks. It's a city on the move.

But that's recent. Once-boarded shops now sport art galleries, boutiques, and restaurants showcasing New Southern food. Its three hotels have grown to seven. The dormant Saenger Theatre, a former vaudeville palace of 1927, has been reborn to house productions from the Mobile Symphony Orchestra to Bob Dylan. The Steeple, erected as a Methodist church in 1895, has been gorgeously reclaimed by the same foresighted developer to host concerts and is open to admire — its stained glass by a Tiffany protege is sparkling once again, and musty asbestos tile has been removed to reveal a floor of first-growth pine.

Tourists aplenty streamed by on the Interstates but never had a reason to pull over and explore the city. Scott Tindle, another developer, launched (literally) Gulf Coast Duck Boat tours to change all that. Bumping into the muscular working port of Mobile Bay, where the delta's five rivers converge ("the Amazon of America"), the tours capture the energy of port-side shipbuilding and airbus plants while splashing by container barges and cruise ships and the vintage fleet anchored here, including the U.S.S. *Alabama* and U.S.S. *Drum* submarine.

Again inventing opportunities, the same developer has undertaken major renovations to the dormant Colonial Fort of Mobile, furnishing it with artifacts on loan from the History Museum, to spotlight the Colonial experience under the city's five landlords: first France, then Spain, next England, the Confederacy, and again the U.S.A. Costumed reenactors and

activities such as glass-blowing, a shooting gallery (Get those pirates!), and fife-and-drum corps marches enhance the fort's edu-tainment ops.

That neighboring History Museum, housed in the City Hall of 1855, is particularly proud of its display of miniature houses of grander days, along with antique carriages and items from the U.S.S. *Alabama*. It's steps away from GulfQuest, the National Maritime Museum of the Gulf Coast, launched in 2015 with energetic interactive stations allowing visitors to experience the wind force of a hurricane; navigate a ship (Whoops! Collision!); chart one's way by stars; and plot a citywide evacuation (You fail? Then so does Mobile). Chronically bored teenagers jostled for places at each action station.

But back to the Big Deal...almost the first words you'll hear as you exit the plane is someone making sure you get it straight: Mardi Gras started here. Evidence — and a whole lot more — is on display in the Mobile Carnival Museum, knitting the story of past and present celebrations, which today boast 38 parades, put on by 80-plus mystic societies (two of which are gay — the Orders of Osiris and Pan — famous for hosting the best of all balls). Tour this house of bling to gawk at over-the-top royal outfits, then climb aboard a float for a selfie.

Dauphin, downtown's main street, is jeweled by scads of indie galleries hosting everything from glam glassworks to decorated skateboards. Artists flock here "because the city is affordable, and their art is affordable, too, not like New Orleans," declares an artist at Artology. At Mobile Arts Council, I hear the same sweet story: "It's a quirky place, so lots of really good artists are moving here, and they're welcomed. Mobile is not stuffy."

Anchoring a suburban park, Mobile Museum of Art showcases Alabama's talent pool in an exhibition of contemporary photography, along with a tribute to photographer Christenberry, the state's most renowned, and beloved, son. Another exhibit salutes American Art from 1945 to the present, with works by bold names such as Louise Nevelson, Robert Rauschenberg, and Jim Dine.

Speaking of dine: ready to eat? Seafood from the gulf dominates Mobile's kitchens, ranging from dives to deluxe. Start at the top (literally, atop a glassy tower) at Dauphin's, promoting farm-to-table long before it



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was trendy (small-batch bacon, local cheeses, hand-crafted sauces, Gulf seafood) in winning dishes like pork belly with cheddar grits; venison carpaccio; green gumbo; and, of course, oysters, followed by shrimp étouffée, shrimp and grits pumped up with local Conechu sausage, and pecan-crusted fillets.

More oysters? Wintzell's has been the go-to place ever since 1938. We slurped them up raw and naked plus baked in classy Rockefeller and Bienville treatments. Continue, if you can, with bacon-wrapped shrimp or scallops, redfish, stuffed flounder, and my choice, crab cakes with remoulade and a side of grits. Yes!

Bluegill, a couple of miles farther along the river, brings on the oysters, too — raw or buttery, cheesy, and flaming. What next? Voodoo shrimp. Fried green tomatoes. Seafood po' boys. Or combos of all of the above.

Back on Dauphin, Noble South is a cozy bistro that swears by farm-to-table, too. Don't miss the soft shell crab BLT. The deviled eggs with bacon and roe. Chicken livers joined by kale, poached egg, and bacon vinaigrette. Rabbit and dumplings, with housemade pork/rabbit andouille sausage. Shrimp and grits (a daily requirement if you know what's good for you). Desserts like banana pudding pot de crème and buttermilk pie.

Breakfast? Think beignets, upgraded with a spritz of lemon at Panini Pete's, where sandwiches are also built upon those tasty doughnuts. Or Serda's, serving house-roasted coffee and soon to open downtown's first craft brewery. And don't forget to score a Moon Pie. This decadent sweet is composed of a marshmallow and graham crumb filling in your choice of coating: chocolate, banana, or salted caramel. And if you're in town on New Year's Eve, get on board for the Moon Pie Drop. Be there or be sorry. And stop in at B-Bob's, the city's premier gay bar (drag shows, too). Visit [www.mobile.org](http://www.mobile.org) to find your way. ■

## A DAY IN THE DELTA

I know, I know: you need the beach. Those famous white-sand vistas lie only 30 minutes from town. Steer across the causeway to Dauphin Island and help yourself.

There's a whole lot more to do on the island, too. Trek the boardwalk of Audubon Bird Sanctuary through swamps and dunes to the shoreline, spying on the thousands of species which fly through on their annual migrations.

Visit Fort Gaines, planned to defend the bay and completed in 1861, when along came the Civil War. By 1864, Mobile was one of the last ports open to blockade runners bringing supplies to the Confederacy. So in August of 1864 Union Admiral David Farragut assembled a fleet to attempt to capture the fort guarding the bay. The battle, a long and bloody one, demanded extreme measures on the Union's part: "Damn the torpedoes, full steam ahead!" the Admiral famously ordered, and the fort surrendered. Today a soldier's life is reenacted for visitors, who can watch a blacksmith at his forge, a baker, and the firing of an original cannon.

En route, visit Bellingrath Gardens and Home, a sumptuous estate that began life as a riverside fishing camp for a fellow who earned his fortune as a Coca Cola distributor. When his secretary married the boss, he built the mansion for the new wife, a gardener who took over and planted acres of azaleas, camellias and more. Stroll its paths, then marvel at the mansion's ooh-la-la antiques.

Five Rivers, Alabama's Delta Resource Center, offers DIY ops for hiking and canoeing, or jump aboard a pontoon tour to spot gators, herons, and pelicans in the swamp.

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## OUR SCENE

TRAVEL | BY CARLA WALDEMAR



(From left) Dracula's Castle. Choral Synagogue in Bucharest's war-decimated Jewish Quarter. Photos by Carla Waldemar

# In the Land of Vlad the Bad

Well, that's my politically correct nickname for the Romanian big-shot who founded the country's present capital, Bucharest, in the 15th century. He went on to rule from his Transylvanian castle, where he earned the even darker epithet of Vlad the Impaler after his preferred mode of punishment. His hangout, Bran Castle, became better known as Dracula's Castle, after the fictional vampire whose creator, Bram Stoker, deemed it a suitable location for his vampire count.

Think he's bad? A more recent megalomaniac, communist leader Nicolae Ceaușescu, took the prize for stifling his nation until his death in the famed Revolution of 1989. Revolution Square, heart of that action, today hosts monuments to freedom fighters among the bullet holes still stippling the Parliament Building and the charming Eastern Orthodox Cretulescu Church of 1722 across the street, where its priest welcomed me in the perfect English spoken by everyone. Nearby, the former Royal Palace of 1866 now serves as the city's art museum — a treasury of mesmerizing dark-eyed medieval icons rescued from the many churches Ceaușescu destroyed.

A bit farther along Victory Drive, the Atheneum of 1888 escaped the leader's rampage and today holds concerts by the esteemed George Enescu Philharmonic, where I was fortunate to enjoy Prokofiev and Brahms framing a premiere by a local composer. Continue along the avenue, the Champs d'Elysees of Bucharest, to another Parisian wannabe, an Arch of Triumph — this one, seemingly assembled by IKEA of planks and plaster.

Never mind. Mr. C vowed to out-do anything the Free World had to offer by building the Palace of Parliament with over 1,000 rooms (designed by a young architect with nada on her resume) — the largest government building on the planet save for the Pentagon. Begun in 1984, it's still unfinished. So is the vast cathedral behind it, draining money, its angry citizens claim, from needed hospitals and infrastructure.

Clearly this is a populace whose DNA bears little countenance with unsavory politicians. All last winter — perhaps you caught on it on TV — folks from all walks of life held an ongoing protest on Victory Square against those elected “statesmen” and their legislation enabling them-

selves to accept even more lavish bribes.

Mr. C flattened residential areas in the name of progress; yet many remain, from the dreary Communist-era apartment blocks to those lining the engaging tangle of the Old Town's historic streets (today blessedly pedestrian-only).

It's *the* place to be — to wander streets flanked by everything from tiny arts and crafts shops to H&M, and countless cafes and bars with al fresco seating to watch the world go by while nursing a \$2 beer. Succumb to the charms of its many Orthodox churches, such as Stavropoleus which is petite but potent with saints painted, inside and out, on every surface. Peer into the barrel vault, and there's Jesus. Approach the altar, glowing with row atop row of saints and disciples, and there he is again, flanked by Mother Mary, whom devout believers approach to kiss and cross themselves. During vespers, a quartet of resounding bass voices chant and black-clad nuns answer with songs of their own as priests shake incense into the air.

Calmed, I returned to my hotel, the 16-room Rembrandt, of cheery modern design within its Baroque façade, and await its lavish breakfast buffet — think cheese and sausage, cukes and peppers, hardboiled eggs, cereals, yogurt, pastries, and waffles made to order — and endless cappuccinos. I'm back at lunch for a bowl of spicy goulash. Its sweet staff has found me a table that evening (reservations essential) at the megapopular beer hall called Caru cu Beru of 1870, which wouldn't be out of place in Munich. As I await my order (tonight, stuffed cabbage leaves aside polenta crowned with sour cream and a lethal-looking pepper) I enjoy the costumed folk dancers who prance through the hall. And I love it. Just outside, the annual Festival of Lights illuminates a dozen or so facades with light-and-music shows on the closed-off avenue. It's magic.

Another night, I head to City Grill for a ringside seat at the meat-centric barbecue station, where I'd learned to place my dessert order first. There's a 30-minute wait for the made-to-order papanhsi: sweet raised doughnuts slathered with cream and cherry jam. Preceding it, a host of Turkish-style apps, from baba ganoush to silky olives.



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Next day I discover the city's Jewish Quarter, now a shabby, forgotten neighborhood, which once held half a dozen of the country's 1,500 synagogues, of which 81 remain today. Three in Bucharest still hold services, including Choral Temple, launched in 1857, destroyed in the 1866 pogrom, rebuilt in 1867, ransacked in the 1941 pogrom, and so the story goes. Nearby, a Holocaust Memorial gives testament to documents which show that no country outside Germany itself was responsible for more Jewish deaths than Romania, outdoing even Vampire Vlad.

Happier times reign today in Vlad's environs, where I participated in a week-long language camp in which English speakers (our group from Australia, London, New Zealand and moi) teach English as it's spoken (no classrooms, no textbooks) to Romanian professionals eager to improve their grasp (see [www.angloville.com](http://www.angloville.com), also operating programs in



Snow-capped mountains overlook graveyard in Bran, a countryside town where Angloville is held. Photo by Carla Waldemar

Hungary, Poland, etc.). The program involves no cost to us Anglo participants except airfare. Meals, lodging, and transportation to/from a countryside resort are complimentary. And, what a setting! My balcony overlooked snow-peaked mountains framing Dracula's Castle while, below, daffodils bloomed among the grazing sheep. We heeded warnings to amble only along fenced roads to avoid wolves and bears and — worse — attack-trained sheepdogs, all in a day's work.

English-learners arrive with "textbook" proficiency but are eager to acquire adeptness in conversation, both for business advancement and leisure. Several hours daily involve one-on-one conversations (any subject, from careers to politics to vacation plans). Frequent group exercises provide inventive challenges, such as planning the relaunch of a failing restaurant or whom to kick off a desert island. Each Anglo mentors a local, who must prepare a ten-minute presentation. Evenings are devoted to word games, the sillier the better (Ever try to mime the word "mustard?" Or "tarantula?"). Forming deep friendships is the easy part; saying goodbye is what's hard. ■

#### GAY BUCHAREST

- Visit Freedom Club, aside McDonald's in Romana Square. Gay-friendly cafes and bars include the open-air Gradina Eden; Gaia Boutique Club, fashionable and eccentric; and Acquarela, a hipster hit.
- 2017's Pride will culminate in the March of Diversity, sponsored by ACCEPT. And yes, gay marriage is legal here.
- Bucharest's GLBT community gathers on Friday and Saturday night at Queens (B-du Carol 61) to enjoy a live show and mingle.

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# What to Do

| BY ANDY LIEN |

Pride Weekend is here and here is a sampling of what you can do, see, hear, and experience. Events are happening in both Twin Cities, so you can be sure to find fun things to do that fit all sorts of preferences and parameters.

## THURSDAY, JUNE 22

### ROSÉ & OYSTERS PRE-PRIDE PARTY

**Red Rabbit, 201 N Washington Ave., Minneapolis**  
June 22, 3:00–10:00 p.m.  
[www.redrabbitmn.com](http://www.redrabbitmn.com)

Come celebrate the start of Pride at Red Rabbit! Enjoy five different rosés, happy hour pricing on oysters, and live music after 7:00, all for no entry fee! Chef Todd Macdonald and others will be shucking oysters along with additional entertainment.

### TERRACE THURSDAYS: TOTAL PRIDE

**Walker Art Center, 725 Vineland Pl., Minneapolis**  
June 22, 5:00–10:00 p.m.  
Free

[www.walkerart.org](http://www.walkerart.org)  
Start Pride weekend on the rooftop of the Walker Art Center. The terraces will be transformed into a cabaret featuring live music by Martha Graham Cracker, moving image by Frederic Moffet, pop-up tours of the Merce Cunningham show by local drag queens, music by Flip Phone, merch by Smitten Kitten, and more.



Photo by by Jamie Zakaras

### PRIDE PRESENTS TIG NOTARO WITH SPECIAL GUEST, FORTUNE FEIMSTER

**State Theatre, 805 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis**  
June 22, 8:00 p.m.  
Starts at \$30  
[www.tcpride.org/pride-presents](http://www.tcpride.org/pride-presents)

Kicking off the official four-day Twin Cities Pride weekend is Tig Notaro with Fortune Feimster. This community has some comedy gems in Tig and Fortune, which you can experience at the State Theatre on Thursday, June 22. Tig Notaro is a comedian, actor, and writer originally from Mississippi, who *Rolling Stone* named one of the 50 best stand-up comics of all time. Tig writes, produces, and stars in the semi-autobiographical Amazon series, *One*

*Mississippi*. Fortune Feimster, who first made a name for herself as a performer and writer on *Chelsea Lately*, has quickly risen to new heights having sold an autobiographical TV pilot with Tina Fey and is now in a recurring role as Nurse Collette on *The Mindy Project*. Don't miss this night of laughs!

### PRIDE AT LUSH

**Lush, 990 Central Ave. NE, Minneapolis**  
June 22–25

Covers vary, see website  
[www.lushmpls.com](http://www.lushmpls.com)

Start your Pride weekend off on Thursday with College Pride Night (18+) featuring music by DJ Theology and #DragEvolution Pride Showcase. On Friday, you can catch a night of entertainment at the Pride Weekend Kickoff Block Party

featuring 3-4-1s, *RuPaul's Drag Race* viewing party, Black Heart's Burlesque Pride Show and another #DragEvolution show. Saturday's fun starts with Drag Brunch featuring the queens of #DragEvolution and Drag Bingo, followed by the Pride Block Party. Both nights offer a \$10 all-you-can-eat Pride buffet by Chef Steph. On Sunday, Lush will be closed to participate in the parade and other festivities.

### PRIDE WEEKEND AT THE GAY 90'S

**Cay 90's, 408 Hennepin Ave. S, Minneapolis**  
June 22–25  
18+

[www.gay90s.com](http://www.gay90s.com)  
Pride Weekend starts with Latina Pride Xplosion with DJ K-Yes on Thursday as well as



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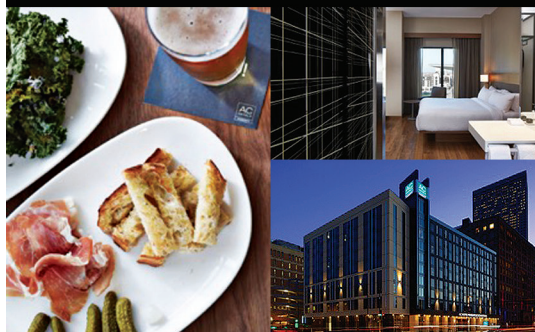
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the Miss City of the Lakes 2017 pageant. Friday night's got a Foam Party and Roxxy Andrews live on stage! Then, Sunday morning, come over for an all-you-can-eat Pride brunch for \$14.

### BOOBYTRAP'S LEMONADE

Union, 731 Hennepin Ave.

Minneapolis

June 22

9:30 p.m.-2:00 a.m.

\$7

[www.boobytrapmpls.com](http://www.boobytrapmpls.com)

Lemonade is the launch of a brand new quarterly queer women's event. Kick off Pride weekend and head to the roof at Union to dance under the stars!

### DJ COLETTE

Rev Ultra Lounge, 731 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis

June 22

10:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.

\$7

[www.revmppls.com](http://www.revmppls.com)

World famous Los Angeles DJ/producer DJ Colette will spin deep house and sing live to celebrate the release of her new album *Retrospective*, a collection of 20 remixes of her original tracks from 2000 to 2017. The featured remixers on this double album include Minneapolis' own Chuck Love, Kaskade, Morgan Page, Derrick Carter, Sonny Fodera, and more.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 23

#### FRUIT BOWL

Memory Lanes, 2520 26th Ave. S, Minneapolis

June 23, 6:00-8:30 p.m.

All are welcome

[www.facebook.com/rainbow-health](http://www.facebook.com/rainbow-health)

Join Rainbow Health Initiative and Pride Institute at the 10th Annual Fruit Bowl: the only alcohol-free, tobacco-free, family-friendly LGBTQ Pride event in the Twin Cities. There will be bowling, sand volleyball, karaoke, selfie photography booth, kids activities, door prizes, and a taco bar with a \$5 suggested donation, but no one will be turned away. Open to all, but please RSVP on Facebook or by emailing [info@rainbowhealth.org](mailto:info@rainbowhealth.org).

#### PRIDE BEER DABBLER

Loring Park, Minneapolis

June 23, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

\$45 in advance/\$55 at the door

21+

[www.beerdabbler.com](http://www.beerdabbler.com)

The Beer Dabbler craft beer festi-



Photo by Brooke Ross Photography

val is back for its sixth year. This year, 50 Minnesota breweries will be pouring 50 special one-off beers inspired by the songs of community advocate Lady Gaga.

### GROWN & SEXY PRIDE VII

First Avenue Mainroom, 701 First Ave. N, Minneapolis

June 23, 9:00 p.m.

\$10 in advance/\$14 at the door  
[www.first-avenue.com](http://www.first-avenue.com)

This year's Grown & Sexy Pride has all of your favorites: Antic Studios, Sweetpea, and Shannon Blowtorch with Mica May, Dykes Do Drag, Ladies of La Femme, Dragged Out, The Vigilantease Collective, Deviance, BRKFST, and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. Mark your calendars for this all-night dance party infused with incredible onstage performances. The talent is incomparable, the music is amazing, and all are welcome!

### PRIDE SOUL FRIDAY

Icehouse, 2528 Nicollet Ave. S, Minneapolis

June 23, 9:00 p.m.

\$12 in advance/ \$15 at the door

21+

[www.icehousempls.com](http://www.icehousempls.com)

Soul Friday is a semi-monthly dance party by and for Queer Women of Color and friends. Celebrate with the flyest DJs spinning old school, R&B, old and new hip-hop, and more with DJ Keezy, DJ Lady L, DJ Michel.Be plus special guest performers.

### BOOBYTRAP PRIDE PARTY

Muse Event Center, 107 3rd Avenue N, Minneapolis

June 23, 9:00 p.m.

\$15 in advance

21+

[www.boobytrapmpls.com](http://www.boobytrapmpls.com)

This is the 11th annual Boobytrap Pride Party and this year's event is co-produced by Daniela Serra and Beecher Vaillancourt. It started out as a monthly event in Minneapolis at the Bolt and then quickly grew into an annual Pride event drawing more than 1000 women in the LGBTQ community. Resident DJ Dbaz, DJ DMil, Boobytrap GIRLZ (dancers), and special guest performances by Emily Elise Aldrich and Dizzy Fae, who has opened for Lizzo and most recently toured with Polica.

### PRIDE WEEKEND AT THE 19 BAR

19 Bar, 19 W 15th St., Minneapolis

June 23-25

[www.facebook.com/The19Bar](http://www.facebook.com/The19Bar)

Party with the 19 Bar Pride weekend! Located only two blocks from Loring Park and never a cover charge makes it a great place to celebrate!

### PRIDE WEEKEND AT EAGLEBOLTBAR – SCORCH FIREBALL 2017

eagleBOLTbar, 515 Washington Ave., Minneapolis

June 23-25

Events and times vary by day

[www.eagleboltbar.com](http://www.eagleboltbar.com)

On Friday, catch the finale of *RuPaul's Drag Race* while also enjoying some 3-for-1s, then party under the Big Top all night long. Saturday's got Bear Bar Night and guys from Titan Men Studios: Aleks Buldocek, Jonah Fontana, and Lorenzo Flexx. Then spend your Pride Sunday Funday having brunch, a beer bust, and show tunes!

### PRIDE WEEKEND AT THE SALOON

The Saloon, 830 Hennepin Ave. Minneapolis

June 23-25

Single day and weekend passes available, see website

[www.saloonmn.com](http://www.saloonmn.com)

The party is going on all weekend, so visit the website for details. On the stage, the the action on Friday and Saturday will be hosted by Carson Kressley. Enticing Entertainment will be making appearances. Then, headlining on Friday, "Hold On" and see Wilson Phillips; Saturday night's got a Pride "Old School" Drag Show; and Sunday's got J Sutta from the Pussycat Dolls and Debra opening for Deborah Cox.

### PRIDE WEEKEND AT THE TOWN HOUSE

Town House Bar, 1415 University Ave. W, St. Paul

June 23-25

[www.townhousebar.com](http://www.townhousebar.com)

The Town House has a great weekend planned with Bingo and YOLO with Mia Dorr, Jeremy Parker, Aimee Laurann, and Heather Kneefe as well as karaoke with John W. and Teresa on Friday; Lori Dokken and friends followed by the Dottie West Show on Saturday; and Sunday Funday with 2-for-1 drinks, free pool, free darts, free beanbags, and no cover.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 24

### TWIN CITIES PRIDE FESTIVAL

Loring Park, Minneapolis

June 24-25, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Free

All are welcome

[www.tcpride.org](http://www.tcpride.org)

The 2016 Twin Cities Pride Festival features over 400 exhibitors, 25 food and beverage booths, four free stages, and 300,000+ visitors participating in this free celebration of the LGBTQ+ community.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 36 ➔



# HELP ELECT ★★★★★ THE ★★★★★ 1<sup>ST</sup> GAY MAYOR OF MINNEAPOLIS

**Tom Hoch** has dedicated his whole life to making our diverse community a great place to live and work.

As Deputy Director of Public Housing, Tom helped to mitigate discriminatory housing practices in North Minneapolis and as the founder of Hennepin Theater Trust he led the restoration of our historic downtown theater district.

As Mayor, Tom will continue to work diligently to make Minneapolis a thriving city we can all take pride in.

**TOM**  
MPLS MAYOR  
**Let's Love.**

Prepared and Paid for by the Tom Hoch for Minneapolis Committee,  
P.O. Box 80847, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408.





## MIX PRIDE EDITION

**Cafe & Bar Lurcat, 1624 Harmon Place, Minneapolis**

**June 24, 12:00-6:00 p.m.**

**www.facebook.com/CafeBar-LurcatMpls**

Saturday's a day to party with MiX Pride Edition at Lurcat! DJ Lindsay Sheik and DJ Lenka Paris will be spinning and the drinks will be cold.

## PRIDE IN CONCERT

**Loring Park, Minneapolis**

**June 24, 6:00-10:00 p.m.**

**\$10 General Admission, \$75 VIP**  
**www.tcpride.org**

Sweetpea and The Vigilantease Collective will be hosting Pride in Concert in Loring Park. Opening acts include Brian Justin Crum from *America's Got Talent*, electro-pop artist Luciana, and local all-female rock band Rebel Queens. all ramping up to this year's headliner, En Vogue, with hits "Free Your Mind," "Never Gonna Get It," and "Whatta Man." Concert will begin at 6:00 on the Loring Stage in Loring Park and end with fireworks at 10:00.

## THE WOMAN'S CLUB PRIDE DANCE

**The Woman's Club of Minneapolis, 410 Oak Grove St. Minneapolis**

**June 24, 8:00 p.m.**

**\$15 for members/\$25 for non-members in advance/\$30 for non-members at the door**  
**www.womansclub.org**

The Woman's Club of Minneapolis will be hosting its annual Pride Dance with DJ Brian Engel of Hipshaker. View fireworks from the fabulous rooftop overlooking Loring Park. Everyone is welcome.

## GRRRL SCOUT SUMMER CAMP PRIDE PARTY

**The Cabooze, 917 Cedar Ave., Minneapolis, MN**

**June 24, 9:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.**

**\$12**

**21+**

**www.cabooze.com**

Ready to earn those patches? Grrrl Scout is gearing up for its third annual Pride event, Summer Camp. With a strong commitment to breaking conformity, these events are a unique array of entertainment, partners, and offerings for each and every event. Summer Camp is no different. Get out there and get to camp.

## FLIP PHONE XXL: PRIDE WITH VALENTINA

**First Avenue Mainroom, 701 N 1st Ave., Minneapolis**

**June 24, 9:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.**

**\$12 in advance/\$14 at the door 18+**

**www.facebook.com/FlipPhone**

Slip into something comfortable and get ready to move and dance to your favorites: Gaga. Beyoncé. Ariana. JLo. Rihanna. Britney. Pop-up drag performances by Valentina (*RuPaul's Drag Race* Season 9), Max (*RuPaul's Drag Race* Season 7), Sunny Kiriyama, Julia Starr, and Sasha Cassadine.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 25

### RAINBOW RUN 5K

**Boom Island Park, 724 Sibley St. NE, Minneapolis**

**June 25**

**Registration required**  
**www.tcpride.org**

Show your Pride by taking part in the Twin Cities Pride Rainbow Run! Starting at Boom Island and ending near Loring Park, the route takes runners along Hennepin Avenue as spectators begin to gather for the annual Ashley Rukes GLBT Pride Parade.

### SAINTS & SINNERS: PRIDE PATIO PARTY MIX: PRIDE ROOFTOP PARTY

**Mercy, 901 Hennepin Ave.**

**Minneapolis**

**June 25**

**9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.**

**\$5**

**www.mercympls.com**

Head to Mercy to enjoy a brunch buffet until 3:00 and a free Absolut cocktail or mimosa. DJ Lenka Paris will be spinning while people watch the parade from the Mercy Rooftop, and DJ Leif Anderson will be spinning from the courtyard. And don't miss this year's featured performers in the courtyard, Coco Montrese and Kimora Blac from *RuPaul's Drag Race*! For reserved tables along the rooftop railing, or private cabanas in the courtyard, contact Mike, mlaguire@mercympls.com.

### FLIP PHONE'S LOVE ON TOP: BEY DANCE PARTY AND PARADE VIEWING PARTY

**Union, 731 Hennepin Ave.**

**Minneapolis**

**June 25**

**9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**

**\$10**

**21+**

**www.unionmpls.com**

Join OutFront Minnesota to watch the parade from the sky. DJ Miss

Brit will be spinnin' a Beyoncé inspired set, while you groove and watch the parade. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. with the parade beginning two hours later, but dancing goes on all day.

### FLIP PHONE'S PRIDE IN THE SKY: PARADE ROOFTOP VIEWING PARTY

**Crave, 825 Hennepin Ave.**

**Minneapolis**

**June 25**

**9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.**

**\$10**

**21+**

**www.craveamerica.com**

Join OutFront Minnesota to watch the parade from the sky. DJ Fancy Restaurant and Flipstyle TC will spinnin' jamz all day, so get ready to dance. Drink, dance, and watch the parade from the sky!

### ARISE + SHINE 2017

**City Works MPLS, 600 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis**

**June 25, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**\$35**

**All are welcome**

**www.facebook.com/United-WayAriseProject**

Watch the Pride Parade with the United Way Arise Project at City Works! A ticketed event, your ticket includes access to a private patio along Hennepin Avenue, two free drink tickets, light appetizers, deals from City Works, including a fantastic happy hour menu (great prices on tap beer, mixed drinks, and food!), and a healthy dose of Arise + Pride-themed swag as well as a silent auction. 100% of ticket price goes to programming for homeless LGBTQ youth in the Twin Cities.

### BITCH 'N' BRUNCH

**SEVEN Restaurant, 700 Hennepin Ave. S, Minneapolis**

**June 25, doors open at 9:00 a.m.**

**\$10 advance/\$15 at the door, children 8 and under are free**

**www.7mpls.net**

Celebrate Pride with the one and only Bitch Flowers at HAVEN Rooftop at SEVEN. Complimentary mimosa or bloody mary and a brunch menu will be available. Rooftop seating is first come first served for parade viewing, music will be provided by DJ Greenery.

### ASHLEY RUKES GLBT PRIDE PARADE

**3rd St. and Hennepin Ave. Minneapolis**



Photo by Jamie Zakaras

**June 25, 11:00 a.m.**

**Free**

**All are welcome**

**www.tcpride.org**

The 2017 Ashley Rukes GLBT Pride Parade will be held, as always, along Hennepin Avenue in downtown Minneapolis. The parade route starts at 3rd and Hennepin and ends at Spruce and Hennepin.

### ALL ARE WELCOME HERE PRIDE FAMILY LOUNGE

**Lakes & Legends Brewing Company, 1368 Lasalle Ave., Minneapolis**

**June 25**

**Free**

**All are welcome**

**www.allarewelcomehere.us/news-events/pride-family-lounge**

Enjoy a family-friendly, fun-filled afternoon at Lakes & Legends Brewing Company in celebration of Twin Cities Pride and benefiting Transforming Families. In the Loring Park neighborhood, come for the changing table, stay for a beer or coffee from Tiny Footprint Coffee that taste great with free cookies. Also on the schedule: Drag Queen Storytime, make-your-own-sign with The M, Rainbow Reading Rug, face painting by Faces by Stella, coloring, hopscotch, hula, and dog-friendly fun.

### LURCAT LOVE LUAU

**Cafe & Bar Lurcat, 1624 Harmon Place, Minneapolis**

**June 25, 12:00-6:00 p.m.**

**www.facebook.com/CafeBar-LurcatMpls**

Follow the Pride parade to Bar Lurcat! Be greeted with tropical drinks, ice cold beer, two dance floors, multiple bars, three amazingly talented DJs, and Lurcat food favorites. DJ Lindsay Sheik, DJ Lenka Paris, and DJ Sxooba will keep you dancing all afternoon. ■



**3rd Friday of the Month**

# Foam Party

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TWIN  
CITIES  
PRIDE*Twin Cities  
Pride  
Festival  
Performers*

| BY AMY BROCKMAN / PHOTOS COURTESY OF TWIN CITIES PRIDE |

The 2017 Twin Cities Pride Festival has two full days of free performances on four stages from 12:00–6:00 p.m. on June 24 and 25. The Pride in Concert is an 18+ ticketed performance on June 24 from 6:00–10:00 p.m. and tickets can be purchased at [www.nightout.com/events/pride-in-concert/tickets](http://www.nightout.com/events/pride-in-concert/tickets). Enjoy the show...and this alphabetical listing of acts!

**ALL GOD'S CHILDREN**

**Loring Stage | June 24 |  
12:45–1:15 p.m.**

The All God's Children Metropolitan Community Church Praise Team performs both sacred, secular, pop, and jazz music, depending on the engagement. They have performed at the Twin Cities Pride for over 15 years. [www.agcmcc.org](http://www.agcmcc.org)

**ASS N' SASS CABARET**

**Stonewall Stage | June 25 |  
5:00–6:00 p.m.**

Ass N' Sass is a new cabaret troupe in the Twin Cities, bringing you some sassy, sexy, scintillating spectacles. [www.facebook.com/pg/assnsass](http://www.facebook.com/pg/assnsass)

Ass N' Sass Cabaret

**AXEL FOLEY**

**Power to the People Stage |  
June 24 | 2:00–2:45 p.m.**

Axel Foley is a rapper from Minneapolis. He raps about life and his experiences. Learning,

growing, partying, having fun, friends, love, adventures, and much more all (w)rapped up in dope lyrics and melodic skills on the mic. [www.axelfoley.band-camp.com](http://www.axelfoley.band-camp.com)

**BARB RYMAN**

**Rainbow Stage | June 24 |  
2:15–2:45 p.m.**

A natural storyteller with a deep compassion for the lost and forgotten voices of our





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culture, Barb Ryman expects music to be more than entertaining. With a crystalline voice and skillfully played guitar, Barb delivers a rich mosaic of contemporary folk, drawing from Celtic balladry, early rock, old-time gospel, and her own unique style. [www.barbryman.com](http://www.barbryman.com)

## BEBE ZAHARA BENET

**Loring Stage | June 25 | 12:00–6:00 p.m.**

With the glamour and class of Diana Ross, the edge and boldness of Grace Jones, and the sass and fire of Beyonce (Sasha Fierce), New York City-based artist BeBe Zahara Benet creates a flawless feminine illusion, delighting audiences all over the world by bringing a bold, beautiful, and entertaining character that honors and respects the feminine persona. “America’s Next Drag Superstar” and winner of season one of LOGO TV’s *RuPaul’s Drag Race* competition. [www.bebezahara.com](http://www.bebezahara.com)

## BJ ARMANI’S CABARET

**Stonewall Stage | June 24 | 5:00–6:00 p.m.**

B.J. Armani has been a drag king for over a decade. No show is too small and no task has been too great with the amazing family of performers and behind-the-scenes crew that has made B.J. Armani’s Cabaret so successful.

## BLAKLITE

**Beer Garden | June 25 | 12:00–3:00 p.m.**

BlakLite are local Twin Cities DJs who bring the latest sounds in house and underground music. [www.blaklite.net/about.asp](http://www.blaklite.net/about.asp)



Brian Justin Crum

## BRIAN JUSTIN CRUM

**Loring Stage | June 24 | Pride in Concert | 8:00 p.m.**

Brian Justin Crum was a huge



Bebe Zahara Benet

breakout star from the most recent season of *America’s Got Talent*, making it to the most competitive finals the show has ever seen. From his viral rendition of Queen’s “Somebody to Love” and “Creep” to his show-stopping “Man in the Mirror” Brian wowed the competition week after week. [www.brianjustincrum.com](http://www.brianjustincrum.com)

## CASSANDRA KING

**Stonewall Stage | June 24 | 3:00–3:30 p.m.**

## CITY COUNSELOR

**Rainbow Stage | June 25 | 1:15–2:00 p.m.**

Politically fatigued sad-pop from Minneapolis, from Nicky of Lunch Duchess and BOYF. [www.facebook.com/citycounselor](http://www.facebook.com/citycounselor)

## DENNIS

**Loring Stage | June 25 | 3:30–4:00 p.m.**

Pop. Music. Is. Life. Inspired by a lifelong obsession with pop music, DENNIS is a DIY Britney Spears-meets-Grimes electronic pop band based in Minneapolis. [www.dennismpls.bandcamp.com](http://www.dennismpls.bandcamp.com)

## DIVAS

**Stonewall Stage | June 25 | 12:00–1:00 p.m.**

Divas is the only all-live singing drag/burlesque show in town, featuring some of the most talented entertainers the Twin Cities have to offer as well as an open mic for any singer, musician, or live performance artist to show their stuff.

Hosted by the Broadway baby herself, Martina Marraccino!

## DJ JAKE RUDH

**Beer Garden | June 25 | 3:00–6:00 p.m.**

Minneapolis DJ and host on 89.3 the Current, Jake Rudh was voted Best DJ in the Twin Cities by the readers of *City Pages* magazine 10 straight years (2003–2012) and one of *Star Tribune’s* Artists of the Year (2012). [www.transmission-music.com](http://www.transmission-music.com)

DJ Shiek

## DJ MICKEY BREEZE

**Power to the People Stage | June 24 & 25 | 12:00–6:00 p.m.**

## DJ SHIEK

**Beer Garden | June 24 | 12:00–3:00 p.m.**

DJ Shiek resides in Minneapolis and plays at the most prominent gay clubs in the Midwest. Playing with DJs such as Alexander, David Knapp, Kimberly S, and Kaskade, her beats are highly ranked both as a DJ and producer amongst the best.

## DOM GIOVON AKA LI’L ONE

**Loring Stage | June 24 | 4:15–4:45 p.m.**

Dom Giovon aka Lil’ One is a singer/rapper/model/trans activist/entertainer the list goes on. [www.facebook.com/Li1One-351527114871227](http://www.facebook.com/Li1One-351527114871227)

## DRAGGED OUT (TOWN HOUSE)

**Stonewall Stage | June 25 | 3:00–4:00 p.m.**

Dragged Out has the most diverse cast of performers in the Midwest. Within the cast, members have performed in the Twin Cities, the Midwest, and other parts of the nation. No matter how far out they go, the Town House Bar is their home! [www.facebook.com/Dragged.Out.MN/](http://www.facebook.com/Dragged.Out.MN/)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 42 →



photo + design : brent dundore photography



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## #DRAG REVOLUTION

**Stonewall Stage | June 25 | 3:00-4:00 p.m.**

Victoria DeVille is the show director and the main cast features Monica West, Roxy Marquis, Genevieve Ramona Love, Kamaree Williams, Bad Karma, Laydee Swallows, and Nocturna Lee Mission. #Drag Revolution makes it part of their mission we to revamp the drag scene in Minneapolis.

## DREAM B

**Power to the People Stage | June 24 | 12:00-12:45 p.m.**

Dream B has been putting on for Minneapolis and the LGBTQ community her raunchy lyrics and catchy hooks since 2004. She will be a great asset to the 2017 Twin Cities Pride Festival performing her latest music in order from oldest to new. [www.facebook.com/therealdreamb](http://www.facebook.com/therealdreamb)



Dream B

## EN VOGUE

**Loring Stage | June 24 | Pride in Concert | 8:30 p.m.**

En Vogue has never been afraid to break the mold and step outside the norm. From "Free Your Mind" to "Whatta Man" they have been trendsetters in music and style. Today, affectionately known as the "original funky divas," they are redefining the idea of beauty and what it means beyond the traditional sense with their distinctive fusion of music and style. [www.envoquemusic.com](http://www.envoquemusic.com)

## FLOWTUS

**Rainbow Stage | June 25 | 3:30-4:00 p.m.**

FLOWTUS is a Twin Cities-based band consisting of Angie Lynch, Katya Weinstein, Janani Logendran, and Melissa Tangye. They draw their influences from a plethora of genres that range from blues, country, punk, and folk. [www.facebook.com/FLOWTUS-BAND](http://www.facebook.com/FLOWTUS-BAND)

## FREEDOM JAZZ BAND

**Loring Stage | June 24 | 2:30-3:15 p.m.**

The Freedom Jazz! is an ensemble of the Minnesota Freedom Band. It is a 20-piece LGBTQA jazz/swing band in the Minneapolis/Twin Cities area featuring an assortment of classic big band-style swing, jazz, and rock music. [www.mnfreedom-band.org/freedom-jazz](http://www.mnfreedom-band.org/freedom-jazz)

## FUSION CABARET

**Stonewall Stage | June 24 | 12:00-1:00 p.m.**

Proud from the Cloud is a group of performers who live in, hail from, or are crowd favorites in St. Cloud, Minnesota! These performers can be found on stage with the cast of Fusion Cabaret (St. Cloud's only professional drag troop).

## G'BEAU BAND

**Loring Stage | June 24 | 12:00-12:30 p.m.**

Music and love are fickle things. With the November 26 release of their new album, *The Tears*, Twin Cities-based soul singer g'Beau and his eponymous band attempt to tame both with an expanded and expansive backing band and



Illwin

tracks probing the spaces between people. [www.dakotacooks.com/artist/gbeau](http://www.dakotacooks.com/artist/gbeau)

## GLAM! BOYLESQUE

**Stonewall Stage | June 25 | 4:00-5:00 p.m.**

"Boylesque" is a parody, a comically exaggerated imitation, that features the age-old art of the striptease. Come enjoy their special brand of song, dance, glitter, glam, and muscle.

## GLITCH

**Rainbow Stage | June 25 | 4:00-6:00 p.m.**

GLITCH promotes the exploration of digital games as a culture,

career, and creative practice. We'll be doing a live Let's Play on stage. Our Let's Play will bring LGBTQA+ members of GLITCH's community to the Pride stage where they provide entertaining and insightful game commentary, as well as some witty banter and a dash of information about the local games community. [www.glitch.mn](http://www.glitch.mn)

## GOSH ALICE JONES

**Loring Stage | June 24 | 12:00-6:00 p.m.**

Miss North Star Gay Rodeo Association 2017 Gosh Alice Jones is excited to join Twin Cities Pride. She has passion for Pride and is the annual hostess at Rochester Pridefest and Mankato Pridefest. She believes unconditional love and self-acceptance can change the world one person at a time. [www.goshalicejones.com](http://www.goshalicejones.com)

## ILLWIN

**Power to the People Stage | June 25 | 5:00-6:00 p.m.**

[www.facebook.com/illwintherapper](http://www.facebook.com/illwintherapper)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 44 ➔



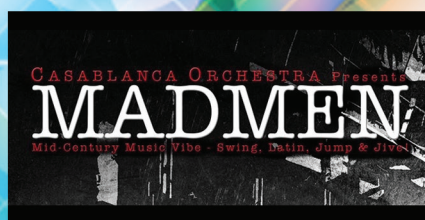




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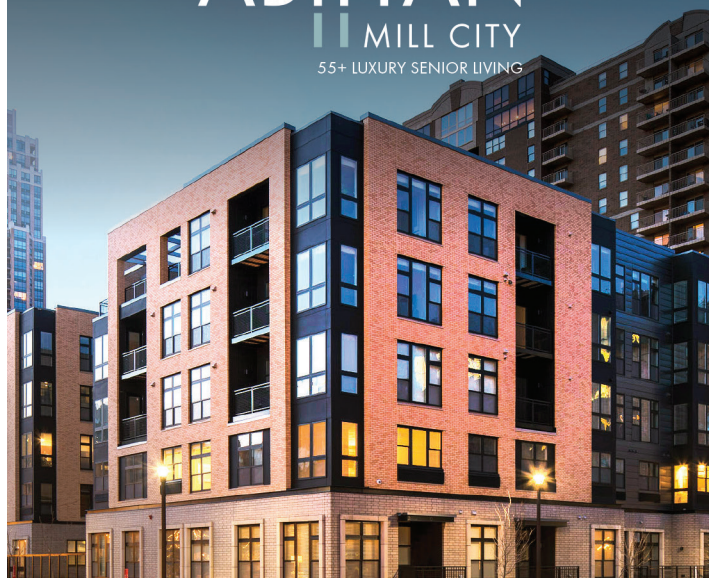
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Imperial Court

## IMPERIAL COURT

**Stonewall Stage | June 24 | 2:00–3:00 p.m.**

The Imperial Court of Minnesota is a local chapter of an international organization whose focus is to build a better community through volunteer work and community outreach with an emphasis on fund-raising. [www.impcourtminn.com](http://www.impcourtminn.com)

## JAMECIA BENNETT

**Loring Stage | June 25 | 5:15–6:00 p.m.**

Jamecia Bennett is a three-time Grammy Award-winning singer and songwriter. Jamecia's style of music is soul, R&B, pop, blues, and rock blended together with her powerful range that shakes the walls and blows the roof! [www.soundsof-blackness.org/jamecia-bennett](http://www.soundsof-blackness.org/jamecia-bennett)

## JUNEBUG

**Loring Stage | June 24 | 1:30–2:15 p.m.**

Junebug fuses together the best of all worlds to create a groovy sound that is uniquely their own, drawing on many influences from numerous genres including psychedelic, funk, grunge, classic rock, reggae, and even country. [www.junebugmusic.com](http://www.junebugmusic.com)

## KASANO AND THE VYBES

**Loring Stage | June 25 | 12:00–12:45 p.m.**

Kasano (pronounced KA-SÁ-NO) infuses stage presence with fluidity, power, and a promise of taking no moment for granted, taking the performance to another level. The Vybes came on in 2016 and together the group has been perfecting a stage show that is sure to make you get on out of your seats. [www.kasanomusic.com](http://www.kasanomusic.com)

Kasano and the Vybes



## KATANA DA DON

**Power to the People Stage | June 25 | 2:00–2:45 p.m.**

Katana Da Don is releasing her most eclectic album to date: *Kut Throat*. A mixture of alternative rock, hip hop, and R&B, she produced the majority of the material. With her latest video “Snow” — a hardcore hip hop tongue twister — being premiered by two local publications in the same week (*City Pages*, *The Local Current*), Katana Da Don is showing her range as an artist and is on her way to being the first female music mogul. [www.katanadadon.com](http://www.katanadadon.com)

## LADIES OF LA FEMME

**Stonewall Stage | June 25 | 1:00–2:00 p.m.**

The Ladies of LaFemme Drag Show at the Gay 90's has been one of the longest-running continuous female impersonation shows in the United States, since 1964! The legacy of all that have graced the stage at the Gay 90's Nightclub continues today!

## LADY LARK

**Loring Stage | June 24 | 5:00–5:30 p.m.**



Luciana

Lady Lark is a local Minneapolis artist reviving a sound that echoes 20 years of pop, soul, and funk music. 89.3 The Current has called her “a pop/soul star to be” with “that '90s R&B heat.” [www.thelady-lark.com](http://www.thelady-lark.com)

## LUCIANA

**Loring Stage | Pride in Concert | June 24 | 7:00 p.m.**

Dubbed “Queen of Electro,” Luciana has stood at the forefront of the electro nu-wave movement with a supercharged sound that has infiltrated dance floors across the globe, particularly the United States where she consistently rises to the top of the Billboard/Beatport charts.

## MADSHAW MENAGERIE

**Stonewall Stage | June 25 | 2:00–3:00 p.m.**

Bearded ladies, lithesome men, sensual non-binaries. Shimmies, peels, and tassels. Mugs, beat-downs, and stomps. A night of burlesque, drag, variety, and sideshow! <https://www.facebook.com/pg/MadShawMenagerie>

## MAE SIMPSON

**Rainbow Stage | June 25 | 2:45–3:15 p.m.**

Mae Simpson is a singer/songwriter from south California who captures emotions and transforms them into words. The soul in the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 46 →



Junebug



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blues Mae sings with the Janis Joplin passion: "Everything can be had, you just have to want and feel it enough." [www.facebook.com/MaeSimpsonMusic](http://www.facebook.com/MaeSimpsonMusic)

### MARTINA MARRACCINO

**Stonewall Stage | June 24 & 25 | 12:00-6:00 p.m.**

Martina is an entertainer at the Gay 90's, the producer and director at The Lady Martina Sings, and director at GLAM! Boylesque at the Gay 90s. [www.facebook.com/martinamarraccino](http://www.facebook.com/martinamarraccino)

### MELODY MENDIS

**Stonewall Stage | June 24 | 3:30-4:00 p.m.**

Melody Mendis is an inspired and versatile vocalist, voice instructor, and voiceover actress. Mendis performs a tremendous range of music including jazz, R&B, pop,

blues, and international songs. She effortlessly soars through her entire range and belts with extreme athleticism. [www.melodymendis.com](http://www.melodymendis.com)

### MINNESOTA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL

**Rainbow Stage | June 24 | 3:15-4:00 p.m.**

The Minnesota Renaissance Festival began its journey in September of 1971 on a 22-acre field in Jonatan, Minnesota. More than 25,000 people visited the two-weekend grand opening of the festival then named "A Celebration of Nature, Art, and Life!" That celebration has since relocated to Shakopee and has grown to be the largest Renaissance Festival in the United States with an annual attendance of 300,000. [www.renaissancefest.com](http://www.renaissancefest.com)



Old Desert Road



Martina Marraccino

the trio. Robb Lauer is the newest member to join the band, bringing percussion back to the mix. [www.olddesertroad.bandcamp.com](http://www.olddesertroad.bandcamp.com)

### PRESTON GUNDERSON

**Rainbow Stage | June 25 | 12:00-12:30 p.m.**

Preston Gunderson is a singer-songwriter based out of Minneapolis. With his powerful voice, catchy melodies, and emotive lyrics, his sophomore record *The Recluse* peaked at #25 in the world on the iTunes Singer Songwriter charts. When he's not touring, Preston is working with local nonprofit Youth Frontiers, using his music to help enhance students' social and emotional learning. [www.preston-gunderson.com](http://www.preston-gunderson.com)

### NEW BLACK CITY

**Loring Stage | June 25 | 4:15-4:45 p.m.**

Created right here in our very own backyard we have New Black City. The newest, hottest hip hop dance and battle team to emerge from the Twin Cities. [www.facebook.com/NewBCity](http://www.facebook.com/NewBCity)

### NIGHTSTONES

**Power to the People Stage | June 25 | 12:00-12:45 p.m.**

NightStones are a five-piece alternative rock group consisting of teenagers from Minneapolis. They just released their first EP in February of 2017, and are excited to perform at the Twin Cities Pride Festival. [www.nightstones.bandzoogle.com](http://www.nightstones.bandzoogle.com)

### OLD DESERT ROAD

**Rainbow Stage | June 25 | 2:00-2:30 p.m.**

Old Desert Road is an indie/folk-rock band from Minneapolis. Formed in 2013, Rob Phillips (vocals/guitar), Jennifer Peterson (violin/vocals), and Zach Anderson (bass/vocals) make up

### RAGTAG DRAG

**Stonewall Stage | June 24 | 1:00-2:00 p.m.**

Ragtag Drag is northern Minnesota's premiere drag troupe. This multicultural cast of up-and-coming kings and queens is dedicated to serving the community and spreading acceptance and cultural knowledge. [www.facebook.com/Ragtagdrag](http://www.facebook.com/Ragtagdrag)

### REBEL QUEENS

**Loring Stage | June 24 | Pride in Concert | 6:00 p.m.**

Established in 2011, Rebel Queens is a high-energy hard-hitting all-female rock band based in Minneapolis. Traditionally regarded as a cover band, the Rebel Queens

CONTINUED ON PAGE 48 ➔

Preston Gunderson





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have curated an action-packed three-hour live show of classic rock with the likes of AC/DC, Led Zeppelin, Joan Jett, and KISS with some killer original tunes along the way. The single "Waiting Up For You" from their new EP has been featured on 89.3 The Current.

### ROSIE BOTTOMS

**Stonewall Stage | June 24 | 3:00-3:30 p.m.**

### SADDLE SORES

**NSGRA Tent | June 25 | 1:00-1:45 & 3:00-3:45 p.m.**

The Minneapolis-based Saddle Sores play classic country music from the '50s, '60s, and '70s. This classic country cover band is a dance community favorite and a multi-generational crowd pleaser. [www.saddlesoresband.com](http://www.saddlesoresband.com)

### SAWYER'S DREAM

**Loring Stage | June 25 | 2:45-3:15 p.m.**

Minneapolis-based Sawyer's Dream is an all-original pop/rock band. Sawyer's Dream offers listeners a modern take on classic rock of the '60s and '70s. Lyrically, the songs will take you back to a time of dreams, nature, and human kindness. [www.sawyersdream.com](http://www.sawyersdream.com)

### SHANNON MURRAY

**Rainbow Stage | June 24 | 12:45-1:15 p.m.**

Shannon Murray is a folk/punk musician and storyteller from the north woods of Minnesota. She has been making folk a threat again since 2001, tackling guitar playing and songcraft like it's a contact sport with music that is intensely political and deeply personal. [www.shannonmurray.bandcamp.com](http://www.shannonmurray.bandcamp.com)



Sawyer's Dream

### SHIMMER

**Power to the People Stage | June 24 & 25 | 12:00-6:00 p.m.**

Quinn Villagomez, a.k.a. SHIMMER, is a true Minnesotan, born and raised right here in the Twin Cities area. Quinn identifies as a Hispanic woman of color and a transgender woman. Most recently Quinn joined KFAI Radio as a co-host for "Fresh Fruit" with RARE Productions on KFAI Radio. Quinn co-hosts alongside Roxanne Anderson every second Thursday each month.

### SNAILMATE

**Rainbow Stage | June 25 | 12:45-1:15 p.m.**

Formed in 2015, Snailmate quickly managed to escape the oppressive hellcape that is Phoenix, Arizona and is now on a perpetual tour across the world. Snailmate's music is a colorful blend of disparate sounds. With a work ethic that could be described as "psychotic." [www.snailmate.com](http://www.snailmate.com)

### SONYA STARR

**Power to the People Stage | June 25 | 3:00-3:30 p.m.**

### SOTABOYZZ

**Power to the People Stage | June 25 | 4:00-5:00 p.m.**

### SWEETPEA & THE VIGILANTEASE COLLECTIVE

**Loring Stage | June 24 | Pride in Concert | 6:00-10:00 p.m.**

Burlesque, drag, singers, dancers, DJs, and more, Sweetpea & The Vigilantease Collective bring talent, passion, and ethics together to make art on their own terms. Sensual, strong, politically charged, community-supportive, fully expressed, gender- and sexuality-fluid performances encourage change and activism through sexy, fierce, and fun entertainment. [www.thesweetpea.com](http://www.thesweetpea.com) and [www.facebook.com/Vigilantease](http://www.facebook.com/Vigilantease)

### THE BELFAST COWBOYS

**Loring Stage | June 25 | 2:00-2:30 p.m.**

The Belfast Cowboys is a nine-piece, horn-driven band that specializes in the music of Van Morrison, along with original songs and other assorted rock covers. The band features several veterans of the Minneapolis music scene, including singer Terry Walsh and sax man Vic Volare. [www.belfastcowboys.com](http://www.belfastcowboys.com)

### THE BIG FAT COMEDY HOUR

**Rainbow Stage | June 24 | 4:15-6:00 p.m.**

With Sarah McPeck, a lesbian comic, improv teacher, and recipient of *Lavender Magazine's* 2014 Community Involvement Award, The Big Fat Comedy Hour is making its debut Pride appearance this year. Get ready to be wowed by veteran comedians, fabulous drag performances, and an audience-inspired car dancing competition! [www.sarahmcpeck.com](http://www.sarahmcpeck.com)

### THE COAX

**Rainbow Stage | June 24 | 12:00-12:30 p.m.**

[www.facebook.com/pg/thecoax](http://www.facebook.com/pg/thecoax)

### THE COMMON GROUND COMPANY

**Rainbow Stage | June 24 | 1:30-2:00 p.m.**

The Common Ground Company's unique blend of bluegrass, Americana, and folk has been rocking the Twin Cities since the fall of 2015. Their honest songwriting, three-part harmonies, and tasteful instrumental breaks keep the crowd tuned in and singing along. [www.thecommongroundcompany.com](http://www.thecommongroundcompany.com)

### [THEØLOGY]

**Beer Garden | June 24 | 3:00-6:00 p.m.**

[Theology] encompasses the musical styles of Matthew J. Bentley. Beauty, emotion, and Intelligence are the three main aims of his sets. You'll hear things you know very well, and you'll also hear things you don't know very well, but the goal of this up-and-coming DJ/Producer is the same: make everybody love their life as they rid themselves of every amount of stress they have on the dance floor. [www.artistecard.com/Theology](http://www.artistecard.com/Theology)

### THE ROXXY HALL BAND

**Loring Stage | June 25 | 1:00-1:45 p.m.**

The Roxy Hall Band has been playing rock-n-soul in Minneapolis and St. Paul for 25 years. They lay down a solid groove, sing five-part harmonies, and have a smokin' horn section. [www.roxyhallband.com](http://www.roxyhallband.com)

### THE VON TRAMPS

**Loring Stage | June 24 | 3:30-4:00 p.m.**

The Von Tramps is an original rock band formed in the ice-cold streets of St. Paul. The group is fronted by guitarist Chelsea Oxborough and guitarist/vocalist Jenna Enemy. The Von Tramps has a healthy blend of energetic irreverent punk rock, slapstick/sludgy Ramones-esque humor, and a certain flair for the dramatic. [www.facebook.com/TheVonTramps](http://www.facebook.com/TheVonTramps)

### TIMISAROCKER

**Power to the People Stage | June 24 | 1:00-1:45 p.m.**

Named after the spunky lead singer, Timothy Dooley, Timisarocker was formed as a four-piece rock band from St. Paul in 2014. With music that advocates for equality and mental health awareness, Timisarocker continuously aims to generate a sense of community among the divided millennial generation. [www.timisarocker.com](http://www.timisarocker.com)

### UNL DRILL TEAM

**Power to the People Stage | June 25 | 3:00-3:45 p.m.**

UNL Drum and Dance was founded in 2005 under the direction of Mr. Stephan Graham. UNL is now under the direction of Deondrea Cole and is a community-based youth group with the motto "Making unlimited possibilities in moving youth to the next level in their lives and communities." ■



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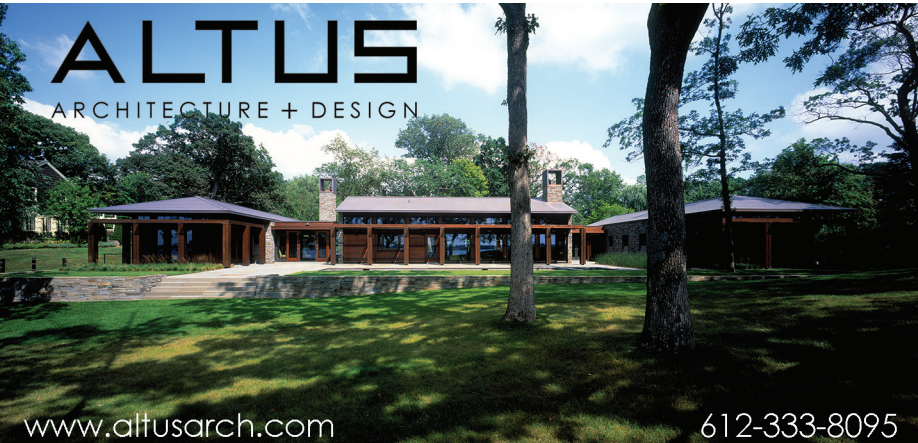
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# 2017 Kia Niro



The Toyota Prius V just got some company.

Being the only hybrid gas-electric wagon around, it offered the combination of extra cargo space with high efficiency and great fuel economy. The Prius V had plenty of power. Its uniqueness alone was the reason for Toyota to offer such a vehicle.

However, it is no longer the only hybrid of its type on the road. There's another wagon — OK, crossover — that is about to provide hybrid vehicle shoppers a real choice.

Prius V owners and potential customers...meet the 2017 Kia Niro.

Kia is no stranger to hybrid vehicles. They offer a gas-electric driveline in their Optima sedan. With the Soul EV, Kia has plenty of experience in electrified vehicles; however, the Niro is the only model in its lineup that is exclusively a hybrid with no all-electric or normal gas-fueled versions available.

Is this new player in the hybrid market good enough to sway customers away from the Prius V?

By looking at a Niro, it might seem like any other Kia. Although the Korean car market has been producing some compelling designs, the Niro is a bit “normal” looking. “Normal” has its advantages; it is actually quite handsome in comparison to a lot of its hybrid rivals.

While the Prius V is longer by almost a foot with a three-inch wheel-base difference, the Niro has the advantage of being more of an urban go-getter because of its size. Its lighter weight confirms the Niro's purpose for urban driving and beyond. Plus, its practicality comes true with good cabin access and cargo hold.

Inside, the comparisons between the Niro and Prius V become quite compelling. The passenger space is the same between the two. Yet, the Niro appears to have less cargo space, even with a underfloor stowage unit. Overall, the Niro has a very straightforward approach to everything, which becomes very useful to those looking for a hybrid that is not made by Toyota.

This straightforward theme continues in the instrument panel. It looks almost like every other Kia on the market with familiar controls, the UVO-driven infotainment screen, and the combination of analog, LED, and TFT dials and information screens. The idea of a hybrid is to not make it futuristic, but to make it accessible for everyone to drive. Kia accomplished this with a clean and clear design that makes drivers feel comfortable behind the wheel.

Speaking of comfort, the seats were of a good size with plenty of bolstering and support up front. Rear seats are equally comfortable and offer good space for most passengers.

As with every high trim level Kia, UVO drives a touchscreen that integrates audio, navigation, and information. This is compatible with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto for further connectivity options. Bluetooth is included, creating a complete setup for safe vehicle operation, including those of us with iPhones using our friend Siri for hands-free help. Harman/Kardon adds eight speakers, including a subwoofer, to our Touring tester.

What lies underneath the Niro is a hybrid gasoline-electric drive system with a few twists. First, the gasoline half of the driveline consists



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## RIDE REVIEW

of a 104-horsepower 1.6-liter engine. Combined with the electric motor, the Niro is rated at 139 horsepower with a combined torque rating of 195 pound-feet. Instead of a continuously variable transmission as found on most hybrid drivelines, Kia uses a six-speed dual-clutch gearbox for the Niro. This crossover/wagon is only offered in front-wheel drive.

It is a decent engine/electric motor/transmission combination. There is some struggle between the motors and the gearbox at some speeds. The solution would be to put the transmission in Sport mode — just move the shifter to right of Drive — and toggle through the individual gears. For fuel economy, we averaged 43.9 MPG in our Touring tester which is above the manufacturer's stated average for this model. We know that Kia advertises the Niro to average 50 MPG. To do so, you would have to get the FE model. The LX and EX models also are advertised to average 49 MPG.

The best way to describe driving the Niro is "normal." Normal, though quiet due to the hybrid driveline, but it does corner quite well and rides pretty decently. Rougher roads expose some tire noise and some feedback through the suspension. There is a lower limit on some turns through the curves. Steering is solid and provides good feedback from the road and the wheel. There is a bit of play at the wheel on center, however. Sport mode will resolve the on-center feel issue with a heavier feel. Brakes are also good, though one would notice the minute regenerative lag when applying the brakes. Normal and panic stops were good.

The Niro Touring offers a good amount of active safety technology. Features include Smart Cruise Control, Forward Collision Warning System, a rearview camera with cross-traffic alert, lane departure warning, and a self-parking system.

The Niro lineup starts with the aforementioned FE model and its \$22,890 base price. Our Touring model came with a sticker price of \$32,575.


For those looking for an alternative to wagons and crossovers will find the Kia Niro a solid choice. Its smaller size and lighter weight are great advantages for urban dwellers. The Niro offers a more engaging drive than its rivals.

Even as our community continues to love hybrids, the question remains whether the Kia Niro can be considered a choice for us. The only way to find out is to try one out and see if it fits our lifestyle. ■



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#### **Lyric Arts Main Street Stage**

Located in downtown Anoka, offering a full season of live theatre and intimate music events. 420 E. Main St. Anoka, MN 55303 (763) 712-3206 [info@lyricarts.org](mailto:info@lyricarts.org) [www.lyricarts.org](http://www.lyricarts.org)

#### **Ordway Center for the Performing Arts**

Hosting, presenting, and creating performing arts and educational programs that enrich diverse audiences. 345 Washington St. St. Paul, MN (651) 224-4222 [www.ordway.org](http://www.ordway.org)

#### **The Minnesota Opera**

World-class opera draws you into a synthesis of beauty; breathtaking music, stunning costumes, and extraordinary sets. 620 N. 1st St. Minneapolis, MN 55401 (612) 333-6669 [mnopera.org](http://mnopera.org)

#### **Park Square Theatre**

Theatre for your heart, mind and soul on two stages, next to dining and jazz. Historic Hamm Building 20 W. 7th Pl. / 408 St. Peter St. St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 291-7005 [www.parksquaretheatre.org](http://www.parksquaretheatre.org)

#### **Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus**

An award-winning chorus that builds community through music and offers entertainment worth coming out for! 528 Hennepin Ave., Suite 307 Minneapolis, MN (612) 339-SONG (7664) [chorus@tcgmc.org](mailto:chorus@tcgmc.org) [www.tcgmc.org](http://www.tcgmc.org)

### POLITICS & RIGHTS

#### **OutFront Minnesota**

Delivering programs/services in the area of public policy, anti-violence, education, training and law. 310 E. 38th St., Ste. 204 Minneapolis, MN (612) 822-0127 [www.outfront.org](http://www.outfront.org)

### PRIDE

#### **Twin Cities Pride**

Producers of the third-largest national Pride celebration seeks sponsors, volunteers, board members. Contact us today. 2021 E. Hennepin Ave., Ste. 402-7 Minneapolis, MN 55413 (612) 255-3260 [www.tcpride.org](http://www.tcpride.org)

### RELIGIOUS & SPIRITUAL

#### **Central Lutheran Church**

Exploring the promise of God for all. 333 S. 12th St. Minneapolis, MN 55404 (612) 870-4416 [www.centralmpls.org](http://www.centralmpls.org)

#### **First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis**

A tradition of forward-thinking humanism at home in the here and now. 900 Mt. Curve Minneapolis, MN 55403 (612) 377-6608 [www.firstunitarian.org](http://www.firstunitarian.org)

#### **First Christian Church**

Come explore, be curious, and ask questions... a place where ALL are truly welcome. 610 W. 28th St. Minneapolis, MN 55408 (612) 870-1868 [www.fccminneapolis.org](http://www.fccminneapolis.org)

#### **Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis**

Spiritual, Loving, Relevant, Transforming. Find us on Facebook and Twitter 1900 Nicollet Ave. at Franklin Minneapolis, MN (612) 871-7400 [www.plymouth.org](http://www.plymouth.org)

#### **St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral**

inquiring INSPIRING inclusive. Wherever you are on your faith journey, St Mark's welcomes you. 519 Oak Grove St. Minneapolis, MN (612) 870-7800 [www.ourcathedral.org](http://www.ourcathedral.org)

#### **The House of Hope Presbyterian Church**

A thoughtful, gracious faith community welcoming all people. Sunday Worship 10am. Child Care, Sunday School. 797 Summit Ave. St. Paul, MN (651) 227-6311 [www.hohchurch.org](http://www.hohchurch.org)

#### **United Methodist Reconciling Churches**

Congregations around Minnesota that intentionally welcome all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. [www.mnrcmc.org](http://www.mnrcmc.org)

### TRAVEL

#### **Bayfield and Madeline Island, Wisconsin**

Explore Wisconsin's north coast via beautiful Bayfield and Madeline Island, largest of the Apostle Islands. (715) 779-3335, (715) 747-2801 [www.bayfield.org](http://www.bayfield.org), [www.madelineisland.com](http://www.madelineisland.com)

#### **Visit Duluth**

Lake Superior. Historic waterfront. Vibrant arts & dining. Adventure. Hotels and B&Bs. Attractions and events. 21 W. Superior St., Ste. 100 Duluth, MN (218) 722-4011, (800) 4-DULUTH [www.visitduluth.com](http://www.visitduluth.com)

### ZOO

#### **International Wolf Center**

Our world famous Center features daily programs, award-winning exhibits, and live ambassador wolves. 1396 Highway 169 Ely, MN 55731 218-365-4695 [www.wolf.org](http://www.wolf.org)





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